



# *Proclamation*

## Juneteenth Freedom Day

January 19, 2025

**WHEREAS**, many communities across Arizona come together to celebrate Juneteenth as a day of freedom and enjoy a spirit of peace, respect, and brotherly love.

**WHEREAS**, Juneteenth commemorates the date of June 19, 1865, when Union General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston, Texas, and announced the end of slavery, more than two years after President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation; and

**WHEREAS**, Juneteenth represents a pivotal moment in American history when the last enslaved African Americans were finally freed, and it stands as a powerful reminder of the struggles, resilience, and contributions of Black Americans throughout our nation's history; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Tolleson honors the significance of Juneteenth as a celebration of freedom, reflection, and hope, and recognizes the importance of understanding our collective past in order to build a more just and equitable future; and

**WHEREAS**, the City joins communities across the nation in commemorating Juneteenth as a time to honor African American history and culture, and to continue working toward the realization of true liberty and justice for all; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Tolleson is committed to promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion, and acknowledges the enduring contributions of African Americans to the growth, development, and cultural fabric of our community and country.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Juan F. Rodriguez, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Tolleson, Arizona, do hereby proclaim June 19, 2025 as Juneteenth Freedom Day in the City of Tolleson, and encourage all residents to reflect upon the significance of this historic day and to celebrate the principles of freedom, equality, and opportunity for all.



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Juan F. Rodriguez, Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

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Crystal Zamora, City Clerk